

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 833

To increase the penalties to be imposed for a violation of fire regulations applicable to the public lands, National Park System lands, or National Forest System lands when the violation results in damage to public or private property, to specify the purpose for which collected fines may be used, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2003

Mr. ALLARD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

## A BILL

To increase the penalties to be imposed for a violation of fire regulations applicable to the public lands, National Park System lands, or National Forest System lands when the violation results in damage to public or private property, to specify the purpose for which collected fines may be used, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Public Lands Fire  
5 Regulations Enforcement Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF PUBLIC LAND FIRE**  
2 **REGULATIONS RESULTING IN PROPERTY**  
3 **DAMAGE.**

4 (a) INCREASED PENALTIES ON INTERIOR LANDS.—  
5 Notwithstanding section 303(a) of the Federal Land Pol-  
6 icy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1733(a)) or  
7 section 3 of the Act of August 25, 1916 (16 U.S.C. 3),  
8 a violation of the rules regulating the use of fire by visitors  
9 and other users of lands administered by the Bureau of  
10 Land Management or National Park System lands shall  
11 be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or imprison-  
12 ment for not more than one year, or both, if the violation  
13 results in damage to public or private property.

14 (b) INCREASED PENALTIES ON NATIONAL FOREST  
15 SYSTEM LANDS.—Notwithstanding the eleventh undesig-  
16 nated paragraph under the heading “SURVEYING THE  
17 PUBLIC LANDS” of the Act of June 4, 1897 (16 U.S.C.  
18 551), a violation of the rules regulating the use of fire  
19 by visitors and other users of National Forest System  
20 lands shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$1,000  
21 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, if  
22 the violation results in damage to public or private prop-  
23 erty.

24 (c) RELATION TO OTHER SENTENCE OF FINE AU-  
25 THORITY.—The maximum fine amount specified in sub-  
26 sections (a) and (b) applies in lieu of the fine otherwise

1 applicable under section 3571 of title 18, United States  
2 Code.

3 (d) USE OF COLLECTED FINES.—Any moneys re-  
4 ceived by the United States as a result of a fine imposed  
5 for a violation of fire rules applicable to lands adminis-  
6 tered by the Bureau of Land Management, National Park  
7 System lands, or National Forest System lands shall be  
8 available to the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary  
9 of Agriculture, as the case may be, without further appro-  
10 priation and until expended, for the following purposes:

11 (1) To cover the cost to the United States of  
12 any improvement, protection, or rehabilitation work  
13 rendered necessary by the action that resulted in the  
14 fine.

15 (2) To reimburse the affected agency for the  
16 cost of the response to the action that resulted in  
17 the fine, including investigations, damage assess-  
18 ments, and legal actions.

19 (3) To increase public awareness of rules, regu-  
20 lations, and other requirements regarding the use of  
21 fire on public lands.

○